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COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Rapporteur: Mr. Michelangelo PISANI MASSAMORMILE (Italy)

8. A Human Rights Prize

91. Paragraph 12 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

> "The Committee recommends that the United Nations should establish in 1968 an international prize to be known as the 'United Nations Human Rights Prize' to be awarded to the person who is judged to have contributed most significantly to the advancement of the cause of human rights up to the time of the award. The Committee recommends further that the Secretary-General of the United Nations should be authorized to fix the amount of the prize, to accept contributions from private sources towards the necessary funds, to select the prize-winner and to make the award during the International Year for Human Rights."

92. The paragraph was considered by the Committee at its sixteenth to eighteenth meetings. Some members of the Committee proposed deletion of the paragraph, while others supported its retention. Those who favoured deletion pointed out that the terms of the paragraph were too vague, first in respect of the criteria to be applied in awarding the prize, secondly in respect of the procedure for selection of the prize-winner, and thirdly in respect of the question of financing. Those who supported its retention suggested, however, that the establishment of a committee to assist the Secretary-General in the task of selection of the prize-winner might help to forestall objections and avoid rancour.

93. The representative of Guatemala proposed that paragraph 12 should be left as it stood, except that the words "to select" in the penultimate line should be replaced by the words "to appoint the committee which will select ...". The representative of the Philippines, after consulting with various members of the Committee, proposed, and the Committee accepted, a compromise text to replace the text of paragraph 12 submitted by the Working Group, as follows:

> The Committee considered the question of according international recognition through the United Nations of significant contributions by individuals in the field of human rights as part of the activities in 1968. The discussions on this question (ST/SG/AC.5/SR.16-18) dealt with the various aspects of the matter such as its impact on the promotion of human rights; the kind and form of recognition; the criteria for selection of awardees; and by whom the selection should be made. In view of the importance of the question and the issues raised, the diversity of opinions expressed, and the lack of time for a decision thereon, the Committee decided to invite the Commission on Human Rights to make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

9. Activities and ceremonies during 1968

94. Paragraph 13 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"It is further recommended that the Secretary-General should:

"(a) issue human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968, and arrange for special cancellations during 1968;

"(b) promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Declaration in as many languages as possible by means of printed posters, leaflets and pamphlets issued during 1968;

"(c) prepare and publish a special pamphlet on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights specifically for the International Year;

"(d) prepare a radio documentary script on the Declaration for general distribution and encourage and assist broadcasting and television organizations to produce documentary or dramatic programmes relating to human rights;

"(e) design and make available to Member States and States members of the specialized agencies a special poster symbolizing the concept of human rights and freedoms, so that this poster may be reproduced and distributed nationally during International Year;

"(f) direct United Nations officers at Headquarters and in information centres and regional offices to give lectures and write articles on the Declaration and to co-operate with information media and educational authorities in various countries in organizing the celebration of the International Year;

"(g) request the distributors of United Nations publications to prepare a special display of relevant United Nations documents for exhibition during the months of November and December 1968.

"For Human Rights Day, 1968, it is recommended that the United Nations should:

"(a) organize at Headquarters a special meeting of the General Assembly on 10 December 1968, in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration. Surviving members of the Commission on Human Rights who participated in the drafting of the Declaration should be invited to be present at the meeting; and

"(b) organize a concert at United Nations Headquarters to celebrate the twentieth anniversary and give the concert world-wide radio and television coverage."

95. The representative of the Office of Public Information suggested several changes in the text of the paragraph. With reference to sub-paragraph (e), he suggested that the opening words, "design and", should be deleted and that the word "design" should be inserted between the words "poster" and "symbolizing". In the second sub-paragraph, he suggested that the words "give the concert world-wide radio and television coverage" should be replaced by the words "obtain widest possible radio and television coverage for the concert". The Committee agreed to these alterations.

96. With reference to sub-paragraph (a) of the first sub-paragraph, the Rapporteur was authorized to revise the text if necessary in order to take into account the relationship existing between the Secretary-General and the United Nations Postal Administration.

97. With reference to sub-paragraph (a) of the second sub-paragraph, some members of the Committee expressed doubts as to whether the expense involved in inviting surviving members of the Commission on Human Rights to attend the proposed special meeting of the General Assembly could be fully justified.

98. The Committee approved the text submitted by the Working Group with the changes referred to in paragraphs 94 and 95. Accordingly the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

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It is recommended that the Secretary-General should:

(a) make arrangements for the issuing of human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968, and for special cancellations during 1968;

(b) promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Declaration in as many languages as possible by means of printed posters, leaflets and pamphlets issued during 1968;

(c) prepare and publish a special pamphlet on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights specifically for the International Year;

(d) prepare a radio documentary script on the Declaration for general distribution and encourage and assist broadcasting and television organizations to produce documentary or dramatic programmes relating to human rights;

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(e) make available to Member States and States members of the specialized agencies a special poster designed to symbolize the concept of human rights and freedoms, so that this poster may be reproduced and distributed nationally during International Year;

(f) direct United Nations officers at Headquarters and in information centres and regional offices to give lectures and write articles on the Declaration and to co-operate with information media and educational authorities in various countries in organizing the celebration of the International Year;

(g) request the distributors of United Nations publications to prepare a special display of relevant United Nations documents for exhibition during the months of November and December 1968.

67. For Human Rights Day, 1968, it is recommended that the United Nations should:

(a) organize at Headquarters a special meeting of the General Assembly on 10 December 1968, in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration. Surviving members of the Commission on Human Rights who participated in the drafting of the Declaration should be invited to be present at the meeting; and

(b) organize a concert at United Nations Headquarters to celebrate the twentieth anniversary and obtain the widest possible radio and television coverage for the concert.

Section B: Activities and Observances by Member States and States members of the specialized agencies

10. The intensification of domestic efforts in the field of human rights during the period up to 1968

99. Paragraph 15 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"In operative paragraph 4 of resolution 1961 the General Assembly invited all Member States to intensity their domestic efforts in the field of human rights with the assistance of their appropriate organizations in order that a fuller and more effective realization of these rights and freedoms might be achieved and might be reported at the proposed international review of such achievements in 1968 and thereafter. The Committee has considered this proposed intensification of national domestic effort and in doing so has borne in mind the fact that an intensive programme of activity in this field is now in progress, in which the United Nations, the specialized agencies, national Governments and non-governmental organizations are already involved. It can be assumed that each Member State will wish to respond in its own way to the invitation expressed in the fourth operative paragraph of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII). For this reason the Committee did not consider it wise to propose that a wide variety of measures should be added by Member States to their existing programmes. Instead, the Assembly should be asked to invite all Member States to make a special effort during this period in two particular spheres:

"(i) in the sphere of their national legislation;

"(ii) in the sphere of education towards a fuller realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"The Committee agreed that the intensification of efforts on the national level does not exclude intensification of efforts by States Members on an international scale such as within the United Nations and its agencies."

100. The paragraph appeared as the first proposal in section B of the Working Group's report, which bore the heading: "Activities and observances by Member States[1/] and States members of the specialized agencies". The foot-note indicated that "One delegation felt that invitations to participate in the activities should go to all States irrespective of membership in the United Nations." There was some preliminary discussion in the Committee with reference to the section heading and its foot-note, preceding the discussion of the text of paragraph 15.

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101. The Committee considered the title of section B, and paragraph 15, at its eighteenth meeting. While some members approved of the wording of the title, others favoured the use of the words "All States", instead of the words "Member States and States members of the specialized agencies". These members maintained as a position of principle that all States should take part in United Nations activities, including those activities connected with the International Year for Human Rights.

102. The Committee agreed to maintain the section heading as proposed by the Working Group, and to record in the present report the diverging views which had been expressed on the subject.

103. With regard to the text of paragraph 15, the representative of the Netherlands proposed that the words "within the framework of national legislation and policy and according to available means" should be inserted in the third sentence between the words "each Member State" and "will wish to respond". The Committee approved this proposal.

104. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

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Section B: Activities and observances by Member States and States members of the specialized agencies

Some Members felt that when an invitation is addressed in this report to Member States and States members of the specialized agencies it should go to all States irrespective of membership in the United Nations.

In operative paragraph 4 of resolution 1961 (XVIII), the General Assembly invited all Member States to intensify their domestic efforts in the field of human rights, with the assistance of their appropriate organizations, in order that a fuller and more effective realization of these rights and freedoms might be achieved and might be reported at the proposed international review of such achievements in 1968 and thereafter. The Committee has considered this proposed intensification of national domestic effort and in doing so has borne in mind the fact that an intensive programme of activity in this field is now in progress, in which the United Nations, the specialized agencies,

national Governments and non-governmental organizations are already involved. It can be assumed that each Member State, within the framework of national legislation and policy and according to available means, will wish to respond in its own way to the invitation expressed in the fourth operative paragraph of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII). For this reason, the Committee did not consider it wise to propose that a wide variety of measures should be added by Member States to their existing programmes. Instead, the Assembly should be asked to invite all Member States to make a special effort during the period in two particular spheres:

(i) in the sphere of their national legislation;

(ii) in the sphere of education towards a fuller realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Committee agreed that the intensification of efforts on the national level does not exclude intensification of efforts by States Members on an international scale such as within the United Nations and its agencies.

11. National Advisory Bodies on Human Rights

105. Paragraph 16 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"The Committee recommends that the Assembly should invite all Governments of Member States to consider establishing advisory bodies on their national legislation composed of independent and impartial individuals of outstanding calibre and including jurists of recognized reputation. These bodies would be requested: to examine the national constitution or fundamental law and all existing national legislation against the standard of the principles enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to consider in what respects the legislation falls short of this standard, and to suggest to the Government the enactment of new or amending laws to bring the national legislation into conformity with the principles of the Declaration.

"Wherever an organ already exists which could appropriately be charged with this duty, it is recommended that this organ should be invited by the Government to undertake the suggested review of the legislation.

"The national advisory bodies on human rights should be invited to endeavour to complete their examination and to submit their report not later than the end of the year 1967 in order that measures to give effect to any required improvement in the legislation may be introduced before the end of the International Year for Human Rights. /Member States which administer Non-Self-Governing Territories should consider establishing such advisory bodies in these Territories./

"Governments should be urged to give serious consideration to the conclusions of their advisory bodies, with a view to bringing national legislation into conformity with the principles and objectives of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights not later than the end of 1968."

106. The Committee considered paragraph 16 at its eighteenth meeting. Divergent points of view were expressed by various members.

107. Several members favoured a review of national legislation conducted along the lines set out in paragraph 11. These members agreed that action should be taken as soon as possible in order that changes in national legislation might be introduced not later than 1968, and that the reports of the advisory bodies might be fully implemented not later than the end of 1968.

108. However, some members felt that the proposal was not consistent with the fundamental principle of State jurisdiction in internal affairs, and that it was not practical because the establishment of advisory bodies on human rights questions often came within the competence of national legislatures, and sometimes of the electorate, and entailed complex and lengthy procedures. Some members stated that in their opinion it was not for the Committee to indicate to Governments what specific machinery should be adopted for the purpose of the proposed review, as such review could only be carried out in accordance with the parliamentary and administrative procedures followed in each State. Some members pointed out that the national legislation of their countries already incorporated all the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, while others recalled that their Governments had already established committees to review national legislation against the standards set out in the Declaration, and that some of these committees had completed their work.

109. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:[1/]

1/ Text prepared by the Rapporteur and submitted for approval by the Committee.

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The Committee recommends that the General Assembly should be requested to invite Governments to review their national legislation against the standards of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other declarations and instruments of the United Nations relating to human rights, and consider the enactment of new or amending laws to bring their legislation into conformity with the principles of the Declaration and with the other documents relating to human rights.

12. National Measures for the Protection and Guarantee of Human Rights

110. Paragraph 20 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"In the opinion of the Committee it is a matter of the greatest importance that within the territory of each Member State, machinery of some kind should exist and should operate effectively to ensure that human rights and freedoms are realized in practice. The Committee is convinced that national machinery for the protection and guarantee of these rights and freedoms should receive attention in the activities of the International Year for Human Rights.

"It is noted that, in accordance with resolution 888 G (XXXIV) of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General of the United Nations is preparing a 'Guide to National Legal Institutions and Procedures for the Protection or Promotion of Human Rights'. This Guide is to be published in four volumes and it is likely that the first three volumes dealing with constitutional, judicial and administrative institutions and procedures will be completed and distributed to Member States by the end of 1967. Information will therefore be available to Member States concerning the machinery which has been employed by many different nations in the protection and guarantee of individual human rights and freedoms.

"The Committee accordingly recommends that all Member States should be invited by the United Nations, as one of the measures they will undertake in connexion with the International Year, to establish or refine, if necessary by the end of 1968 their national machinery for giving effect to the fundamental rights and freedoms. /If, for example, within any Member State, arrangements do not exist which will enable individual citizens or groups of citizens to bring before independent national tribunals or authorities any complaints they may have concerning the violation of their human rights and obtain effective remedies, the Member State should undertake that such arrangements will be introduced. If such arrangements already exist the Member State should undertake to refine and improve them. This is not a recommendation that any particular improvement in machinery should be

introduced. In one set of circumstances what may be needed is the establishment of a Special Court; in another the appointment of an Ombudsman or Procurator General or smiliar official; in another simply the setting up of offices to which individual citizens may bring their complaints./ The determination as to what machinery or improvement in machinery is required for giving effect to the fundamental rights and freedoms would be within the sole discretion of the Government concerned."

111. The Committee considered paragraph 20 at its nineteenth meeting. While some members favoured acceptance of the paragraph in the form as drafted by the Working Group, others submitted amendments to this text or expressed their reservations concerning the substance of the proposal.

112. The representative of Liberia proposed the deletion of the passage in square brackets in the third sub-paragraph. The representative of Saudi Arabia proposed the deletion of that sub-paragraph. The representative of Trinidad and Tobago proposed that the third sub-paragraph should be retained, and that the words "should undertake that such arrangements will be introduced" and "should undertake to refine and improve them" should be replaced by the words "should be invited to undertake that such arrangements will be introduced" and "should be invited to undertake to refine and improve them". The representative of the Philippines proposed that, in the same sub-paragraph, the words "individual citizens or groups of citizens" should be replaced by the words "individual persons or groups of persons". The representative of the Philippines also proposed that the second sentence of the second sub-paragraph should be redrafted to read: "When this Guide has been published and distributed, information will therefore be available to Member States ...".

113. The Committee agreed that the second sentence of the second sub-paragraph should be deleted, and the third sentence replaced by a sentence similar to the one proposed by the Philippines, the exact wording to be determined by the Rapporteur; that in the third sub-paragraph, the square brackets should be deleted; that the words "individual citizens or groups of citizens" should be replaced by "a person or group of persons"; and that the words "be invited to" should be inserted after the verb "should".

114. In connexion with the substance of paragraph 20 as a whole, the representatives of Poland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed their reservations, which the Committee decided should be summarized in the present report. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regarded it as inappropriate to give an over-detailed description of the procedure which States should adopt in order to ensure respect for human rights. Furthermore, attention was not focussed in the right direction. The impression was given that the Committee was recommending Member States to set up national machinery for the protection of human rights. But to make such a recommendation was not within its terms of reference. Rather than recommend Governments to establish new machinery, it would be wiser to request them to ensure effective respect for human rights, so that such special machinery might be contemplated as a means for the protection and guarantee of those rights. The impression should not be given that, as soon as such machinery existed, human rights would be automatically respected. Governments could not be made, by a few strokes of the pen, to modify their procedures; that could be achieved only through a long process of discussion. Only fully competent organs, e.g., the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, and their superior bodies, were entitled to recommend the establishment of national bodies with a view to ensuring respect for human rights, for those organs were composed of experts who based their judgements on detailed and thorough study of exhaustive data, particularly data taken from replies by Governments to questionnaires. The representative of Poland shared these views.

115. The representative of Saudi Arabia expressed reservations concerning the third sub-paragraph of paragraph 20, while approving the first two sub-paragraphs. With regard to the third sub-paragraph, he pointed out that the draft Covenants on human rights contained measures of implementation which had not yet been adopted by the General Assembly but which would, doubtless, be adopted shortly. For the time being, no one knew what the provisions in question would be, or what procedure or machinery might ultimately be established. Generally speaking, the question of what measures were best calculated to ensure respect for human rights was far from settled. In these circumstances, he advised the Committee to exercise caution lest it interfere in the domestic affairs of States.

116. In accordance with the decision referred to in paragraph 112, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

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In the opinion of the Committee it is a matter of the greatest importance that within the territory of each Member State, machinery of some kind should exist and should operate effectively to ensure that human rights and freedoms are realized in practice. The Committee is convinced that national machinery for the protection and guarantee of those rights and freedoms should receive attention in the activities of the International Year for Human Rights.

It is noted that, in accordance with resolution 888 G (XXXIV) of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General of the United Nations is preparing a "Guide to National Legal Institutions and Procedures for the Protection or Promotion of Human Rights". When this Guide has been published and distributed, information will be available to Member States concerning the machinery which has been employed by many different nations in the protection and guarantee of individual human rights and freedoms.

The Committee accordingly recommends that all Member States should be invited by the United Nations, as one of the measures they will undertake in connexion with the International Year, to establish or refine, if necessary, by the end of 1968 their national machinery for giving effect to the fundamental rights and freedoms. If, for example, within any Member State, arrangements do not exist which will enable individual persons or groups of persons to bring before independent national tribunals or authorities any complaints they may have concerning the violation of their human rights and obtain effective remedies, the Member State should be invited to undertake that such arrangements will be introduced. If such arrangements already exist, the Member State should be invited to undertake to refine and improve them. This is not a recommendation that any particular improvement in machinery should be introduced. In one set of circumstances what may be needed is the establishment of a Special Court; in another the appointment of an Ombudsman or Procurator General or similar official; in another simply the setting up of offices to which individual citizens may bring their complaints. The determination as to what machinery or improvement in machinery is required for giving effect to the fundamental rights and freedoms would be within the sole discretion of the Government concerned.

13. Education to promote respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms

117. Paragraphs 17, 18 and 19 of the report of the Working Group were considered by the Committee at its nineteenth meeting and were adopted without alteration, as follows:

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Believing that there are limits to the effectiveness of laws in making the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms a reality, the Committee is convinced that a concentration of effort on legal and institutional guarantees of human rights, although it will go far towards the achievement of objectives we seek, will not go all the way. Attention needs to be concentrated, in addition, on means of changing some old ways of thinking on these subjects, and of rooting out deep-seated prejudices in regard to race, colour, sex, religion and so on. In short, it is necessary to embark upon a complementary programme of education, including both adult and child education, designed to produce new thinking on the part of many people in regard to human rights. Accordingly, it is recommended that an integral part of any programme of intensification of effort to be undertaken in the next three years should be a world-wide educational programme in human rights. Such an educational programme would be consistent with the objectives of the development decade and also with the objectives in the field of human rights of the proposed United Nations Training and Research Institute. This programme should aim at mobilizing some of the energies and resources of:

(a) universities, colleges and other institutions of higher learning, private and public, within Member States;

(b) media of information and mass communication, including the Press, radio and television;

(c) foundations and charitable, scientific and research institutions;

(d) the teaching staff of primary and secondary schools;

(e) interested non-governmental organizations;

towards the education of the people, adults and children, about the state of human rights in their communities and elsewhere, and about the further steps

which need to be taken in order to secure the fullest and most effective realization of these rights. Member States with federal systems of government are called upon to encourage the activities in the field of human rights of local and state educational institutions.

It would guarantee the success of this educational effort if the national leaders within Member States would give it every encouragement. Within this effort, Governments would organize conferences of universities and other institutions of higher learning within their territories and invite them to consider how the curricula and their teaching programmes can be utilized to improve the awareness in the student population of the fundamental questions of human rights, how their research programmes might be directed to this end, and how they can co-operate with other interested organizations, through extra-mural and other programmes in furthering the aims of adult education in human rights. In this context, studies of local customs and traditions could be undertaken by national authorities with a view to examining to what extent they might be fostering and encouraging attitudes or values contrary to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and how these customs and traditions can be eventually eliminated. Charitable and philanthropic foundations might be invited to consider making grants for programmes of research and study in this field and to make bursaries and fellowships available for research in human rights. Responsible authorities of colleges, and of elementary and secondary schools, could be invited to review their curricula and textbooks in order to eradicate bias, intentional and unintentional, towards the preservation of ideas and concepts contrary to the principles of the Universal Declaration, and to introduce courses of study which positively promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It has been noticed with appreciation that certain universities have already included in their curricula courses in the international protection of human rights; other universities could be guided by such programmes and benefit by those experiences. Attention is also called to the UNESCO Associated Schools Project in Education for International Understanding.

Governments might also convene, or give encouragement to the convening of, conferences amongst the radio and television broadcasting services within their territories, inviting them to consider how their facilities might most

usefully co-operate with other organizations within the country, and with international agencies, in advancing the effort to educate the people into greater respect for individual rights and fundamental freedoms.

The specialized agencies of the United Nations, especially UNESCO and the ILO, can make a particularly valuable contribution towards the intensification of the educational effort with the co-operation of United Nations regional institutes, bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 958 D I (XXXVI) of 12 July 1963; it is recommended that they should be invited to do so.

14. Activities and ceremonies during 1968

118. Paragraph 21 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"The Committee recommends the following programme:

"(a) that Governments formally proclaim 1968 to be International Year and observe it as such;

"(b) that Heads of State or of Government issue special messages during the Human Rights Year reaffirming faith in the dignity and worth of the human person and dedication to the implementation of the Declaration;

"(c) that Governments either appoint an ad hoc committee to co-ordinate the national celebrations for the International Year within their countries or entrust its organization to an existing institution;

"(d) that Governments seize the opportunity of the International Year for Human Rights to redouble their efforts to bring about the signature and ratification, or acceptance in any other form, of all the existing international conventions or treaties designed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in particular spheres;

"(e) that Governments should consider establishing local awards similar to the United Nations Human Rights Prize to honour persons who have made distinguished contributions to the promotion of human rights and make these awards during the International Year; 8/

"(f) that Governments maintain contact with the specialized agencies, undertake to participate in any regional conferences and seminars they may wish to organize and take advantage of the experience and facilities of these agencies when planning their national celebrations."

"8/ One delegation thought that this recommendation should not be put to Member States as it might be abused for political reasons."

119. The Committee considered the paragraph at its nineteenth meeting. Some members felt that the Committee should not make its recommendations mandatory, and objected in particular to the wording of sub-paragraphs (e) and (f) as being too strong. The representative of Nigeria, who shared this view, proposed the insertion, in the first line of the paragraph, of the words "that Governments be invited to adopt the following programme" after the word "recommends". The representative of Argentina, who also shared this view, proposed that the words "undertake to participate" in sub-paragraph (f) should be replaced by the words "and participate", and that the last part of the sub-paragraph beginning with the words "and take advantage" should be deleted.

120. The representative of the Ivory Coast proposed the addition of the following sub-paragraphs, based on the texts adopted in connexion with paragraph 13 of the report of the working group:

"(g) that Governments might issue human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968, and arrange for special cancellations during 1968;

"(h) that Governments might promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Declaration in as many languages and dialects as possible, by means of printed posters, leaflets and pamphlets issued during 1968;

"(i) that Governments might hold a special session of their Parliament or National Assembly on 10 December 1968 to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

121. The representative of Canada proposed that in sub-paragraph (e), the word "persons" should be replaced by the words "their nationals", so that there might be no confusion between national awards and the proposed international human rights prize.

122. The representative of Guatemala proposed the deletion from sub-paragraph (e) of the reference to the international prize, and suggested that the sub-paragraph should begin with the words "that Governments should consider the possibility of establishing one or more national awards to reward persons...". The representative of Canada agreed to the proposal on condition that the words "their nationals" would be used instead of "persons".

123. The representative of the Netherlands proposed that in sub-paragraph (i) the word "preferably" should be inserted before the words "on 10 December 1968". The Chairman suggested that the word "meeting" should be substituted for the word "session" in that sub-paragraph. The representative of Nigeria proposed that the word "hold" should be replaced by the words "examine the possibility of holding".

124. The Committee approved paragraph 21 in its entirety, bearing in mind the amendments which had been made which the Rapporteur was authorized to incorporate into the text.

125. The Committee accordingly submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

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The Committee recommends that Governments be invited to adopt the following programme:

(a) that Governments formally proclaim 1968 to be International Year for Human Rights, and observe it as such;

(b) that Heads of State or of Government issue special messages during the International Year for Human Rights, reaffirming their faith in the dignity and worth of the human person and their dedication to implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(c) that Governments either appoint an ad hoc Committee to co-ordinate the national celebrations for the International Year for Human Rights within their countries, or entrust its organization to an existing institution;

(d) that Governments seize the opportunity of the International Year for Human Rights to redouble their efforts to bring about the signature and ratification, or acceptance in another form, of all the existing international conventions or treaties designed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in particular spheres;

(e) that Governments should consider the possibility of establishing one or more national awards to reward their nationals who have made distinguished

contributions to the promotion of human rights, and make these awards during the International Year for Human Rights;[1/]

(f) that Governments maintain contact with the specialized agencies of the United Nations and participate in any regional conferences and seminars they may wish to organize;

(g) that Governments might issue human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968, and arrange for special cancellations during 1968;

(h) that Governments might promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in as many languages and dialects as possible, by means of printed posters, leaflets and pamphlets issued during 1968;

(i) that Governments should examine the possibility of holding a special meeting of their Parliament or National Assembly, in order to commemorate the Twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, preferably on 10 December 1968.

1/ One delegation thought that this recommendation should not be put to Member States as it might be abused for political reasons.

Section C: Activities and Observances by the Specialized Agencies

126. Paragraphs 22-24 of the report of the Working Group, relating to activities and observances by specialized agencies, was considered by the Committee at its twentieth meeting. The Committee heard statements by the representatives of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO). On the suggestion of the representative of Lebanon, the opening phrase of paragraph 22 was reworded to read: "Specialized agencies of the United Nations whose work touches on the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms have endorsed ...". The representative of Canada proposed the deletion of the word "simply" in the first sentence of paragraph 24. The representative of Guatemala proposed that the phrase "not later than December 1966" in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 24, should be replaced by: "as soon as possible before 1 January 1967". The Committee accepted these amendments and authorized the Rapporteur to make consequential changes in the following paragraphs.

127. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

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Specialized agencies of the United Nations whose work touches on the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms have endorsed the proposal to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and have responded readily to the General Assembly's invitation to render all assistance in the preparation of the United Nations programme of measures and activities. Representatives of some of these agencies have attended the meetings of the Committee and have given their advice on the measures which the Committee has under consideration. These agencies have further expressed their intention both to organize their own celebrations during the International Year and to assist and co-operate with Member States and private organizations, national and international, in producing effective and significant programmes of celebration in the various countries to which their services extend.

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Some of the specialized agencies have informed the Committee of the activities contemplated by them, and this information is set out below:

UNESCO

(a) The Director-General is prepared to convene a commemorative ceremony at UNESCO headquarters on 10 Decmeber 1968 commensurate with the importance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration.

(b) Special articles will be published in UNESCO publications, particularly the UNESCO Courier, and radio programmes will be prepared.

(c) A round-table discussion is planned under UNESCO auspices in which leading representatives in the field of education, science, and culture would review significant developments in the field of human rights during the preceding twenty years.

(d) UNESCO is willing to consider organizing possibly in collaboration with international press and news services a conference on Freedom of Information with special reference to the use of information media in the promotion of human rights.

Universal Postal Union

UPU is willing:

(a) to prepare a special message for 1 January 1968;

(b) to publish a special issue of the Journal, "Postal Union" wholly or partly devoted to commemorating the Declaration of Human Rights;

(c) to facilitate amongst member countries of UPU the plans for the issue of special postage stamps and first-day covers and the use of special cancellations during 1968.

The International Labour Organisation will, inter alia, stimulate employer and worker organizations within Member States to publicize the Declaration as effectively as possible and take part in the celebration of the International Year. ILO will further give more detailed consideration in the interval until 1968 to the planning of an ILO programme for the International Year.

In the light of the information set out above, the Committee recommends that the specialized agencies whose work touches on the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms should be invited:

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(a) to proceed with the planning of their individual programmes of celebrations;

(b) to communicate directly with the Governments of Member States and with private, national, and international organizations, so as to co-operate with them in the organization of national and regional programmes of celebrations for 1968;

(c) to inform the Secretary-General of the programmes they have formulated as soon as possible before 1 January 1967.

Section D: Activities and observances by other international and national organizations

128. Paragraphs 25-27 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"25. The Committee recommends that other organizations having an interest in the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including non-governmental organizations in consultation with ECOSOC, United Nations associations, research institutions, universities and other institutions of higher learning and other private organizations should be invited to participate fully in the celebration of the International Year and to organize special activities of their own during 1968. The invitation to the non-governmental organizations in consultation with ECOSOC would be issued by the Secretary-General and to national organizations by their respective Governments.

"26. In particular, it would be suggested that the non-governmental organizations having consultative status with ECOSOC 9/ should:

"(a) adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or articles thereof as appropriate, as the themes of their annual or special conference in 1968;

"(b) organize commemorative ceremonies on the Declaration during International Year for Human Rights particularly on Human Rights Day 1968;

"(c) print and distribute the text of the Declaration, and prepare and publish pamphlets, leaflets and posters on the Declaration;

"(d) organize community projects, such as panel discussions on local problems of human rights, children's parades and display of the United Nations flag in school and business buildings; and

"(e) encourage local communities to establish a list of questions with a view to investigating and sounding out public opinion as to the communities' effectiveness in promoting the principles of the Declaration.

"9/ One delegation insisted that the programme for non-governmental organizations should not be singled out for mention, but that it should apply to all organizations taking part.

"27. Other organizations having similar interests would be encouraged to take similar action.

"Schools and universities should be invited to hold special assemblies and organize courses or seminars on human rights during the Year.

"It should be suggested to research institutions and universities that they consider publishing during the International Year historic declarations, famous bills on human rights, and great orations and speeches on human rights, with appropriate commentaries and annotations.

"Radio and television networks should be encouraged to carry special programmes and newspaper editors to publish editorials on the Declaration which would be printed or reprinted in whole or in part so as to assist in awakening the widest possible interest in the Declaration. Other information media could organize public debates on great issues of freedom.

"Religious and other national bodies should be invited to hold special services and celebrations or corresponding meetings of a cultural or traditional nature in celebration of the Declaration of Human Rights."

129. The paragraphs were considered by the Committee at its twentieth meeting.

130. With reference to paragraph 25, the representative of Poland proposed the deletion of the words "and other private organizations". As this proposal gave rise to objections on the part of some other members, the representative of the Philippines proposed, as an alternative, that the word "private" should be replaced by the word "appropriate". This amendment was acceptable to the representative of Poland and others who shared his view. The Committee therefore approved the Philippine amendment.

131. On the suggestion of the representative of the Office of Public Information, the Rapporteur was authorized to insert in paragraph 25 a reference to the issuance of invitations to organizations in contact with that Office.

132. With reference to paragraphs 26 and 27, which were considered together, the representative of Lebanon proposed that the two paragraphs should be combined and should begin with the following statement: "It would be suggested that these organizations should...". He suggested the first sub-paragraph of paragraph 27 could then be deleted, and the order of the next two sub-paragraphs could be reversed.

133. The representative of India proposed that the last sub-paragraph of paragraph 27 should be revised to read as follows: "Appropriate bodies in Member States could be invited to hold special services and observances of a cultural or traditional nature in celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

134. On the suggestion of the representative of the Office of Public Information, the Rapporteur was authorized to insert in the fourth sub-paragraph of paragraph 27 a reference to book publishers.

135. The representative of the United Kingdom suggested that, if the two paragraphs were to be combined, the introductory statement might read: "It would be suggested that the non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and other organizations having similar interests should ...".

136. The representative of the Philippines suggested that paragraph 26 should begin with the words, "Within the framework of their respective programmes the various organizations mentioned above should be invited to consider the following activities for the year 1968". Paragraph 26 would then continue, and paragraph 27 would be combined with it in the form proposed by the representative of Lebanon, taking into account the amendment to the last sub-paragraph proposed by the representative of India. The representative of Lebanon accepted the Philippine proposal.

137. The Committee approved the text of the combined paragraphs 26 and 27, revised in accordance with the proposal of the representatives of Lebanon, the Philippines and India.

138. Accordingly the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

XIV

The Committee recommends that other organizations having an interest in the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, non-governmental organizations in contact with the United Nations Office of Public Information, United Nations associations, research institutions, universities and other institutions of higher learning, and other appropriate organizations, should be invited to participate fully in the celebration of the International Year for Human Rights and to organize

special activities of their own during 1968. The invitation to the organizations in consultative status and to those in contact with the Office of Public Information would be issued by the Secretary-General, while the invitation to national organizations would be issued by the Governments of the countries concerned.

Within the framework of their respective programmes, the various organizations mentioned above should be invited to consider the following activities for the year 1968:

(a) to adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, or articles thereof, as appropriate, as the themes of their annual conference for 1968 or of special conferences held during that year;

(b) to organize commemorative ceremonies on the Declaration during the International Year for Human Rights, and particularly on Human Rights Day, 10 December 1968;

(c) to print and distribute the text of the Declaration, and prepare public pamphlets, leaflets, and posters on the Declaration;

(d) to organize community projects, such as panel discussions on local problems of human rights, children's parades, and display of the United Nations flag in school and business buildings;

(e) to encourage local communities to establish a list of questions with a view to investigating and sounding out public opinion as to the community's effectiveness in promoting the principles of the Declaration;

(f) to suggest to research institutions and universities that they consider publishing, during the International Year for Human Rights, historic declarations, famous bills, and great orations and speeches on human rights, with appropriate commentaries or annotations;

(g) to encourage radio and television networks to carry special programmes, newspaper editors to publish editorials on the Declaration which could be printed or reprinted in whole or in part, and book-publishing firms to issue special publications, including books and booklets, on human rights problems designed to publicize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and to encourage other media of information to organize public debates on great issues of freedom;

(h) to invite appropriate bodies in Member States to hold special services and observances, of a cultural or traditional nature, in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.